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Amendments to the Claims:

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (original) A method for controlling the movement of a specific sample component in a fluid sample comprising:

- (a) providing a constrained fluid pathway having an inlet;
- (b) introducing the fluid sample into the inlet of the constrained fluid pathway;
- (c) providing an electrode mounted at the inlet of the fluid pathway, the electrode being entirely external to the constrained fluid pathway;
- (d) applying voltage to the electrode to create a voltage gradient within the constrained fluid pathway to promote electrophoretic migration of the sample component; and
- (e) adjusting the flow rate of the fluid approximately equal to and opposite to the electrophoretic migration;

wherein movement of the specific sample component ceases.

2: (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the constrained fluid pathway is a channel.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the constrained fluid pathway is a capillary tube.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the constrained fluid pathway is less than 200 microns in diameter.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the flow rate of the fluid sample is controlled by electroosmosis.
6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the flow rate of the fluid sample is controlled by pressure.
7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the constrained fluid pathway is a channel on a microchip.
8. (currently amended) An electrophoretic apparatus for controlling the movement of ~~an~~ a sample component in a fluid sample comprising:
- (a) at least one constrained fluid pathway having an inlet; ~~and an electrode mounted at the inlet of the constrained fluid pathway and entirely external to the constrained fluid pathway; and~~
 - (b) an electrode mounted at said inlet of said constrained fluid pathway, said electrode being entirely external to said constrained fluid pathway;
 - (c) a power supply for supplying a voltage to ~~the~~ said electrode;
 - (d) means for delivering said fluid sample having said sample component into said constrained fluid pathway at a desired flow rate; and
 - (e) means for adjusting said voltage on said electrode to an amount whereby said sample component electrophoretically migrates toward said electrode at a rate equal and opposite to said flow rate of said fluid sample, so that the movement of said sample component in said fluid sample ceases.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the constrained fluid pathway is a channel located on a microchip.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the constrained fluid pathway is a capillary.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising a buffer reservoir for containing a buffer solution in fluid contact with the constrained fluid pathway.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the diameter of the constrained fluid pathway is less than 200 microns in diameter.

15. (currently amended) An electrophoretic apparatus for controlling the movement of ~~an a~~ sample component in a fluid sample comprising:

(a) at least one injection fluid pathway having an inlet ~~electrode mounted at the inlet of said the pathway;~~

(b) a first electrode mounted at said inlet of said injection fluid pathway;

- (c) ~~at least one separation or further fluid transfer~~ fluid pathway having an inlet electrode mounted at the inlet of said pathway, said separation fluid pathway being in fluid communication with said injection fluid pathway at said inlet;
- (d) a second electrode mounted at said inlet of said separation fluid pathway;
- (e)(e) at least one power supply for providing voltage to ~~the~~ said first and second electrodes; and
- (d)(f) means for ~~regulating the bulk flow within the channels~~ delivering said fluid sample having said sample component into said injection fluid pathway at a desired flow rate;
- (g) means for adjusting said voltage on said first and second electrodes to an amount whereby said sample component electrophoretically migrates toward said second electrode at a rate equal and opposite to said flow rate of said fluid sample, so that the movement of said sample component in said fluid sample ceases at said inlet of said separation fluid pathway, and so that said sample component may be withdrawn through said separation fluid pathway.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein ~~the constrained~~ said injection and separation fluid pathway is a channel ~~pathways are channels~~ in a microchip.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein ~~the constrained~~ said injection and separation fluid pathway is a capillary ~~pathways are capillaries~~.